

Wednesday 29 March 2023



The Rise of Productivity Commissions: new paper

[Dirk Pilat's](#) TPI insights paper, [The Rise of Productivity Institutions: A Review of Analysis and Policy Recommendations](#), explores the work of ten national productivity commissions. It examines how the [UK Productivity Commission](#) differs from other boards, as the only board not established by government. An [executive summary](#) is also available.



The role of FECs in local and regional ecosystems

Our report on [Skills, Innovation, and Productivity](#) in relation to Further Education colleges (FECs) has been published in conjunction with the Innovation Caucus and funded by the Gatsby Foundation. Listen to the [latest episode](#) of Productivity Puzzles with Jen Nelles and Ben Verinder to hear a discussion of the findings. If you're short on time, the [one-page summary](#) covers six recommendations from the report.



TPI funding call for research into productivity in business

We are seeking research proposals on the investment decision making and business planning process within UK firms in one or more of these strategic functional levels: Digital / IT / Technology; Finance; HR / People and Organisational Development; Marketing; and Operations. The funding is open to all researchers affiliated and based

in the UK. More detail on the call and the application process can be found on the [TPI website](#). Applications close on **Monday, 10 April**.



Productivity revolutions: past and future - call for papers

The Productivity Institute, Arthur Lewis Lab for Comparative Development and The Manchester School are co-hosting a conference on Friday, 16 June at Alliance Manchester Business School. The conference will focus on long-term productivity change and its implications for growth and development in the past, present, or future. [Proposals for presentations](#) close on **Friday, 31 March**. For more information visit the [conference website](#).



Gender and productivity

Over recent decades, OECD countries have relied on women's investments in education and steadily rising higher employment participation to boost growth, but now further growth requires attention to raising productivity, according to new TPI research from Jill Rubery, Isabelle Bi and Anthony Rafferty. Their [Gender and Productivity](#) paper is also available as an executive summary and is part of a [wider TPI project](#).



Diane Coyle at the Treasury Committee

Professor Diane Coyle gave evidence to the House of Commons Treasury Committee on 21 March about the Spring Budget. She [highlighted](#) the need for a long-term perspective and strategic approach to the economy. You can [watch the full session](#) or [read the transcript](#) on Parliament's website.



Productivity Commission – call for written evidence

The Productivity Commission is calling for evidence on topics relating to business investment, public investment and foreign direct investment and their connection to productivity at all levels. Further details and terms of reference can be found on [NIESR's website](#). Please send your submission to productivity@niesr.ac.uk by **Monday**,

24 April.



Carolyn Currie on Scottish productivity

The Chair of the Scotland Productivity Forum Carolyn Currie was a guest on [BBC Radio 4's Today programme \(2:12:26\)](#) and [BBC Radio 5 Live \(1:13:13\)](#), where she spoke about business investment, productivity and the new First Minister of Scotland.



ESCoE Conference on Economic Measurement 2023

Registration is now open for the [Conference on Economic Measurement 2023](#), hosted by our partner organisation the Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence (ESCoE). The event will be held 17-19 May at King's College London and registration **closes 1 May**.



ONS business data and statistics user event

Are you a user of Office for National Statistics (ONS) business statistics and data? The ONS is hosting a [half-day virtual event](#) in the morning of Wednesday, 19 April, which will be opened by ONS senior leaders, offering their perspective on ONS ambitions for business statistics.



UKRI Policy Fellowships

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) has announced 49 [UKRI Policy Fellowships](#) to co-design research to inform policy on a priority area. Fellowship opportunities will be based with a host in one of 27 different UK government departments, devolved governments and What Works Centres. All fellowship opportunities are 18 months in duration and open to applications from researchers based at an organisation eligible for UKRI funding. **Closes 20 April**.

Rishi Sunak faces a dilemma over levelling up: blog

[Jack Newman](#) and [Steph Coulter](#) argue in a [blog post](#) that the levelling up agenda presents Prime Minister Rishi Sunak with a number of difficult challenges which he'd



rather avoid but seems unable to escape. Confronting key questions around how England is governed will be crucial for its economic and political future.



TPI expertise

- TPI's [Philip McCann](#) and [Andy Westwood](#) are both quoted in a [Financial Times article \(paywall\)](#) about regional devolution and mayoral autonomy in England.
- [Diane Coyle](#) was quoted on BBC Panorama's [programme on UK productivity](#). "A lack of investment over decades has held back the economy, and made the UK less resilient than comparable countries to shocks like Brexit, COVID and the invasion of Ukraine".
- [Bart van Ark](#), [John Turner](#) and [David Jordan](#) took part in a Queen's University Belfast and Economic and Social Research Institute event on productivity levels in Ireland and Northern Ireland. The slides from Bart and David's presentations are [available to download](#).



International Productivity Monitor

The latest International Productivity Monitor edition features research on [Indian manufacturing productivity in the 1990s](#). Read all the articles from the IPM [on the TPI website](#).

Upcoming Events

19 April Brown Bag (Jen Nelles) TPI academics only.

3-5 April Royal Economic Society Annual Conference. [Book online](#).

14 April The Bennett Institute's Annual Conference. [Book your place](#).

19 April Brown Bag (Anna Stansbury) TPI academics only.

3 May Brown Bag (Frank Geels) TPI academics only.

17-19 May ESCoE conference on Economic Measurement at King's College London.

More information on [ESCoE's website](#).

18 May Productivity Commission evidence session. [Watch online](#). Written evidence deadline 24 April.

16 June Productivity Revolutions: Past & Future Conference - [University of Manchester](#).

TPI Publications

Working Papers and Productivity Insight Papers can be [found on our website](#).

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Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council

The Productivity Institute, Headquarters: Alliance Manchester Business School, Booth Street West, The University of Manchester, Manchester, Manchester M15 6PB, England

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